



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 21, 2008

Contact: Raul Bocanegra

(916) 319-2039

**Fuentes Passes Legislation to  
Require Better Reporting of Bottled Water**

**(Sacramento, CA)** The California State Assembly today approved legislation to require businesses licensed to extract California water for a private purpose, such as bottling, to report upon application to the Department of Public Health the estimate of the amount water that will be drawn from local groundwater sources and to make that information publicly available. Assembly Bill 2275, introduced by Assemblymember Felipe Fuentes, is designed to make transparent this information so that local governments and communities may make informed decisions regarding the impact of bottled water facilities on groundwater aquifers or surface water supplies.

Community opposition to new bottled water facilities is increasing. Some of this opposition is due to misinformation among residents regarding the impact of the facility on local water supply. "Neighborhoods need reliable and accurate information in order to make informed decisions to facilitate economic growth while also protecting existing businesses and local citizens", said Assemblymember Fuentes. "Little, if any information is currently available regarding the quantity of local water that is extracted and shipped out of the area for consumption elsewhere. This lack of information can unfortunately lead to the circulation of a great deal of misinformation".

It is estimated that close to 2 billion gallons of bottled water is consumed annually in California. Bottled water consumption is increasing 7 -10% per year.

The bill passed the Assembly floor with bi-partisan support and now heads to the Senate.

###